

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated December 18, 2006, claims 1-42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,684,257 to Camut et al. A telephone interview was conducted on March 7, 2007 between Applicants' representative Robert L. Showalter and Examiner Stevens. In a prior Office Action dated August 25, 2006, claims 6, 16, 26, 33, 34 and 37 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected based claim, but as otherwise reciting allowable subject matter. During the telephone interview, Examiner Stevens indicated that claims 6, 16, 26, 33, 34 and 37 define patentably over the '257 patent. Examiner Stevens noted that he would be required to update his search prior to allowing any of the claims in the present application.

With this Amendment, claims 6, 16, 26, 34 and 37 have been cancelled and their limitations have been added respectively to claims 1, 11, 21, 31 and 35. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 1-5, 7-15, 17-25, 27-33, 35, 36 and 38-42 define patentable subject matter over the Camut et al. patent.

With this paper, new claims 43-47 have been added. It is submitted that new claims 43-47 also define patentable subject matter over the prior art.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above discussion, applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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